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Blue Water Bridge

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1. Introduction

****Effective April 1, 2022 at 12:01 AM EDT, fully vaccinated travellers will no longer need to provide a pre-entry COVID-19 test result to enter Canada by air, land or water. You must use ArriveCAN to provide mandatory travel and public health information before and after your entry into Canada.****

This section was last updated: July 2021

Blue Water Bridge



The port of entry is open 24 hours, 7 days a week. It has 7 commercial vehicle primary inspection lanes including 1 designated bilingual and 1 FAST/ EXPRES. It has 11 passenger vehicle primary inspection lanes including 1 designated bilingual and 1 NEXUS. Core hours for NEXUS are 7 days a week - 0700 X 2200 hours. A second NEXUS lane operates when required from 1400 X 1900 hours, Monday - Thursday and from 1200 X 1900, Friday to Sunday.

The bridge is a twin span. One bridge is a cantilever truss bridge. The second is a continuous tied-arch bridge. The bridges connect Point Edward, Ontario and Port Huron, Michigan. The Canadian portion of the bridge is owned and operated by the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited (FBCL-BWB). The United States portion is managed by the Michigan Department of Transportation. Tolls are located in both countries prior to driving onto the bridge.

CBSA Blue Water Bridge operations is also responsible for the Walpole Island and London International Airport.

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2. General Information

This section was last updated: July 2022

2.1 Major Access Routes (Canadian / US)

- Highway 402 / Interstate 69 and Interstate 94
- [Google Map](#)

2.2 Facilities owned by

- The Canadian portion of the Blue Water Bridge is owned and operated by the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited (FBCL-BWB).
- The United States portion is owned and operated by the [Michigan Department of Transportation](#)

2.3 Opposite US Port of Entry

- [Port Huron, MI](#)

2.4 Number of Primary Inspection Lines (PIL) booths, designated bilingual lanes, Secondary, Commercial Exam Bays

Primary	Lanes
Passenger-Only	11
Commercial-Only	7
Mixed (Passenger/Commercial) including Bi-Level	0
Bus-Only	1
Dedicated Nexus/Trusted Travellers	2*
Total Number of Lanes at the Port	18
<i>Number of lanes designated bilingual</i>	2

*The second dedicated Nexus lane can be opened Monday to Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Friday to Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. when requested. In addition, there is one designated FAST / Express Lane

Secondary	
Passenger Vehicles - Secondary Examination Capacity	38
Commercial Vehicle Examination Bays	8
Commercial Vehicle Secondary Parking Capacity	50

Passenger Vehicle Primary



Passenger Vehicle Secondary



Commercial Vehicle Primary



Commercial Vehicle Secondary Examination Bays



2.5 Contraband Detection Equipment

Travellers and Commercial use:

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2.6 Detector Dog Teams Available

<https://cbsawikiasfc.omega.dce-eir.net/display/pp/Blue+Water+Bridge>

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2.7 Signage

- Directional LED signage on bridge, identifiers for NEXUS and FAST / EXPRES Lanes.
- Variable message sign over PIL for client information and key messaging.
- Bilingual lane clearly marked.

2.8 Interpreters On-site

- None

2.9 Non-governmental organizations (NGO) for government sponsored refugee reception

- None

2.10 Trusted Travellers Programs available

- There is a NEXUS / FAST Enrolment Centre located in Port Huron, Michigan.
- CANPASS Programs (not CANPASS Air) photos for clients are taken in the Commercial area of the Blue Water Bridge and sent by computer to the Enrolment Centre.
- There are dedicated lanes for both NEXUS and FAST passage.
- Fiscal Year ending 2018-2019 NEXUS usage is 20% of all passenger vehicles.

2.11 Greeters and Queuing Officers

- Border Services Officers stationed in the secondary area are the greeters and queuing officers.

2.12 Key stakeholders

List of key stakeholders, Southern Ontario Region

- The top commercial importers (by release requests) are William L. Rutherford Limited, General Motors, Ford Canada, Fiat-Chrysler Automotive, Amazon, Costco, Honda Canada, Magna Exteriors and Toromont Industries.
- The type of commercial commodities, by value and by Harmonized System coding, are vehicles and parts, machinery and parts (automobile engines fall under this heading), electrical machinery, mineral fuels and oils, plastics, organic chemicals, measuring / precision / medical instruments, articles of iron or steel and miscellaneous chemical products.

2.13 Key Government Departments (OGDs) on-site

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency is located in the Blue Water Bridge Corporate Centre

2.14 CBSA On-site Function

- Information Technology (CRA)
- 4 Intelligence Officers
- 4 Investigators
- 2 Inland Enforcement Officers

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3. Human Resources

****Due to the closures and restrictions implemented on March 22, 2020 due to COVID-19, staffing resources may be allocated to other areas****

This section was last updated: July 2022

3.1 Staffing Level

Staffing Level Travellers Operations	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Border Services Officers (BSOs)	73	77	88	77	119
Superintendents	11	10	13	9	10
Chiefs	2	2	2	2	2
Directors	1	1	1	1	1
Clerks and administrative support staff	6	2	7	5	6
Total	95	92	111	94	138

Staffing Level Commercial Operations	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Border Services Officers (BSOs)	80	83	83	96	75
Superintendents	9	10	10	9	8
Chiefs	2	2	2	2	2
Directors	0	0	0	1	1
Clerks and administrative support staff	8	7	9	1	13
Total	99	102	104	119	98

- Staffing data provided by HR. Please be advised that prior to FY 2020-21, employees whether inactive or DTA were not removed. Also those out/in on assignment we removed. For FY 2020-21, commercial operation only, all employees whose substantive position is registered for this specific POE. Traveller data provided by POE Organizational Chart.

3.2 Number of staff bilingual and number of staff fluent in languages other than English and French

- 10 officers bilingual in Traffic Operations
- 1 superintendent bilingual in Traffic Operations
- 11 officers bilingual in Commercial Operations
- 1 superintendents bilingual in Commercial Operations

3.3 Variable Shift Scheduling Agreement (VSSA) or Other

- VSSA in place
- Traffic: 11.5 hour shifts: 2 days on 2 days off - 3 days on 2 days off - 2 days on then 3 days off. One seven day stretch off every 56 days. Work every other weekend.
- Commercial: 11.5 hour shifts – same as Traffic VSSA. Also have 8.33 hour shift with 5 days on 2 days off and every 56 days employee gets two 4 day stretch off.

- ODP participate in a 3 week onboarding process designed to expose them to the various aspects of our POE. They work with mentoring BSOs who provide guidance and feedback.
- Ongoing training is conducted with the assistance of Training & Learning.

3.4 Local Training Initiatives to Improve Services Provided by Officers

- The St Clair District has introduced the Point of Entry Mentoring Initiative providing local training for the Border Services Officer.

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4. Volumes and Statistics

This section was last updated: July 2022

****Prior to 2018 data was retrieved from G11 statistics. Commencing in fiscal year 2018-19 data is retrieved from Consolidated Management Reporting System (CMRS) and Operational Reporting Application (ORA)****

**** Volumes for FY 2020-21 are significantly lower due to ongoing border restrictions implemented in March 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic.**

4.1 Number of Travellers

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Number of Travellers	3,825,563	3,900,970	3,821,148	866,299	1,296,019

4.2 Number of Conveyances

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Cars	1,633,007	1,519,875	1,474,255	76,964	224,693
Buses	2,645	3,003	2,150	439	47
Trucks	819,913	802,572	755,233	714,535	834,433

4.3 Peaks and Valleys

- For passenger vehicles, Friday, Saturday and Sunday are the busiest days. The busiest months are from April to October.
- For commercial vehicles, Tuesday through Thursday are the busiest days.

4.4 Border Wait Time Performance

Border Wait Times	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Border wait time performance (%) *	95.2	97.4	98.9	99.7	99.3

*Traveller operations only. The border wait time performance represents the % of time where delays were within the standard

4.5 Number of Enforcement Measures

Enforcement Actions	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
K19 Traveller Seizures	545	509	515	257	343
K19 Commercial Seizures				68	74
HPB3515 Traveller Drug Seizures	267	256	314	187	221
HPB3515 Commercial Drug Seizures				29	29
K27s Obscenity	0	0	0	0	0
Child Pornography	4	0	0	0	1
Forced Payments Traffic	276	192	115	38	34
K24 (<i>previously</i>) BSF 241 (<i>starting 2013</i>)	748	337	253	27	42
Prohibited Goods Travellers	286	12	200	17	0

***As of FY 2020-21, K19 and HPB3515 Seizures are now shown separately to reflect remainder of SOR POEs date representations.**

4.6 Documents Issued Related to the Food, Plant, and Animal Program

Forms	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
BSF-241	17	3	0	0	23

****Beginning in 2018-19, the number reported here is from the ORA, Line 701, which counts the number of BSF156 forms issued.**

4.7 Number of Immigration Documents

Type of Immigration Document	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Allowed to Leave	2,511	2,534	2,384	1,071	1,350
Inadmissibility Report (Sec. 44) (non-refugee cases)	52	52	61	16	39
Refugee Claim	110	63	31	26	28
Student Permit	260	278	331	82	192
Work Permit	1,175	1,090	1,192	313	546
Permanent Resident	1,944	1,391	2,817	132	153
Visitor Record	666	570	500	188	271
Temporary Resident Permit	95	83	69	9	22

4.8 Number of complaints/commendations

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Complaints	39	43	47	33	45
Commendations	11	11	1	2	6

Only those commendations received through the ECM are included in this chart.

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5. Risks

This section was last updated: July 2022

- [2016-2018 National Border Risk Assessment](#)

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6. Future Patterns

This section was last updated: July 2022

We anticipate that with the continued growth in traffic levels that there will be an eventual return to pre-pandemic levels. In addition, commercial traffic continues to increase yearly.

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7. Other

This section was last updated: August 2020

7.1 Business Continuity Planning: December 2017

- BCP is up to date.

7.2 After Hours IT Services Available

- Yes

7.3 Pertinent Information Related to the Infrastructure

Later in 2022, a NEXUS eGate lane will be added to Blue Water Bridge. NEXUS eGate allows the NEXUS lane to be open during off-peak hours. A border services officer can process these low-risk, pre-approved travellers remotely, from inside the port of entry office. Therefore providing NEXUS members more access to the NEXUS lane and ports of entry given more flexibility in scheduling and operations. This process is support by various technologies, including:

- Radio-frequency identification (RFID) to scan NEXUS cards
- Closed-circuit television to see different views of the vehicle
- Audio feeds to communicate with the traveller

In addition, a new radio system will be deployed this year at the Blue Water Bridge.

7.4 Miscellaneous

Critical Infrastructure Surrounding Blue Water Bridge

Within 50 kilometres of the Point of Entry, there are 28 major pipelines crossing from Canada into the United States of America, the CN Rail yard - the second largest international rail yard in Canada, 25 major chemical plants as well as power generation plants.

Some of the larger critical infrastructure operations are:

- Air Products Canada – a hydrogen producing plant
- Imperial Oil – large refinery operations
- Nova Chemicals – chemical manufacturing plant – polyethylene
- Shell Canada – large refinery plant
- Suncor Energy – large refinery plant

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8. Contacts

This section was last updated: August 2020

8.1 Contacting Ports of Entry, Management, and Subject Matter Experts

- [SOR Superintendent & Chief Offices Contact List](#)
- [SOR Management Contact List](#)
- [SOR Core Subject Matter Expert \(SME\) List](#)

 Contact the [Superintendents' office](#) for enquires regarding port-specific scheduling information.

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3 Comments



Rankin, Tom

Commercial

- PIL Lanes: 7 Total
 - FAST / Expres: 1
 - Designated Bilingual Lane: 1
- [Examination Bays: 8](#)

Personal
Info.

Personal Info.

Ahh my home port! Miss it!



Cliche, Marie-Eve

Hey Everybody, keep up the good work
